

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please approve the following amendments to the drawings as indicated on the attached annotated copies of the formal drawings:

FIG. 7, please change reference numeral "414" denoting the "profiles" selection to --417--.

FIG. 9, please delete reference numeral "162."

FIG. 15, please delete reference numeral "402" denoting the menu.

FIG. 15, please add reference numeral "460" denoting the "favorites" selection.

FIG. 21, please delete reference numeral "2000" denoting the display.

FIG. 25, please change reference numeral "2570" denoting the "favorites" icon to --2575--.

FIG. 27, please delete reference numeral "2700" denoting the display.

FIG. 28, please delete reference numeral "2800" denoting the display.

FIG. 28, please delete reference numerals "2820," "2840," "2860," "2880" and "2890."

FIG. 33, please delete reference numeral "3300" denoting the display.

Attachments: Annotated Sheets Showing Changes to
 FIGS. 7, 9, 15, 21, 25, 27-28 and 33

 Replacement Sheets for FIGS. 7, 9, 15,
 21, 25, 27-28 and 33

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p) (4-5).

The specification was objected to because of informalities and improper incorporation of subject matter by reference.

Claims 1-51 were pending in the above-identified patent application.

Claims 3, 20 and 37 were objected to because they were identical to claims 2, 19 and 36, respectively.

Claims 1-7, 9-11, 16, 18-24, 26-28, 33, 35-41, 43-45 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gagnon et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,522,342 (hereinafter "Gagnon").

Claims 8, 12-13, 25, 27-28, 42 and 44-45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gagnon.

Claims 14-15, 17, 31-32, 34, 48-49 and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gagnon in view of Youman et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,629,733 (hereinafter "Youman").

Summary of Applicants' Reply

Applicants have amended the drawings and specification to overcome the objections, to correct other typographical errors, and to make the use of reference characters in the drawings consistent with their use in the specification.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 5-7, 9, 12-14, 17-18, 22, 24, 26, 29-31, 34-35, 39-41, 43, 46-48 and 51, and added new claims 52-54 to more particularly define applicants' claimed invention. No new matter has been added and the amendments and new claims are fully supported by the originally-filed specification.

Applicants have canceled claims 3, 20 and 37 without prejudice.

The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

In the Drawings

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "414" was used to designate both a moving highlight region and the "profiles" selection, and reference character "2700" was used to designate both the video or application display and the reminder overlay. Applicants have amended FIGS. 7 and 27 to correct the duplicate use of the same reference character.

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because they

included reference characters not mentioned in the description. Applicants have amended FIGS. 9, 15, 21, 28 and 33 to delete some of the reference characters not mentioned in the specification. Applicants have also amended the specification to include reference characters referenced from some of the figures.

Applicants have further amended some of the figures to correct other typographical errors and to make the use of reference characters in the figures consistent with their use in the specification.

In the Specification

The specification was objected to because of informalities in the references to the figures. Applicants have amended the specification to correct these informalities.

In another objection, the Examiner contended that the paragraphs do not need to be numbered. While applicants agree with the Examiner, applicants also respectfully submit that the "paragraphs of the specification . . . may be numbered" (37 C.F.R. § 1.52(b)(6); MPEP 608.01(I)). Thus the objection to the paragraph numbering is improper.

The specification has also been objected to because of improper incorporation of subject matter by reference. Applicants respectfully submit that at the time of the filing of this application, the U.S. patent application number and official filing date of the references incorporated herein were not yet known. Thus applicants identified these references by the

attorney-docket number. Accordingly, applicants have amended the specification to include the U.S. patent application number and official filing date of these references.

Applicants have further amended the specification to correct other typographical errors and to make the use of reference characters in the figures consistent with their use in the specification.

Applicants' Reply to the Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-11, 16, 18, 19, 21-24, 26-28, 33, 35, 36, 38-41, 43-45 and 50 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Gagnon. Claims 8, 12-13, 25, 27-28, 42 and 44-45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gagnon. Claims 14-15, 17, 31-32, 34, 48-49 and 51 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gagnon in view of Youman. The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 18 and 35 to incorporate some of the features of applicants' dependent claim 17. In particular, claims 1, 18 and 35 have been amended to more particularly define the inter-resource feature as an inter-resource search feature. Thus in addressing the patentability of claims 1, 18 and 35, applicants will address the Examiner's contentions with respect to claims 1, 17, 18 and 35. Support for this amendment can be found in

the specification (see, e.g., p. 56, lines 3-29; p. 66, lines 1-17) and figures (see, e.g., displays 3400 and 3500 in FIGS. 34 and 35, respectively, and step 4210 in FIG. 42).

Applicants' claims 1-2, 4-19, 21-36 and 38-51, as amended, are directed to an interactive television program guide system and method having user television equipment on which one or more supported applications are at least partially implemented in such a way as to allow a user an opportunity to enter an indication to perform an inter-resource search feature. The inter-resource search feature may be provided for one or more resources. The resources include, for example, video-on-demand resources, home shopping resources, program guide resources, display resources, program resources, website resources, services resources, and features resources (see applicants' specification, p. 11, lines 6-11).

As set forth in independent claims 1, 18 and 35, in response to receiving a first indication to perform an inter-resource search feature for a first resource, the inter-resource search feature for the first resource is provided. In response to receiving a second indication to perform the inter-resource search feature for a second resource, the inter-resource search feature for the second resource is provided. The first and second resources are of different types.

Gagnon describes a "multi-channel broadcast system that transmits a video/text/graphic-based

program guide data stream that is used at viewer stations to generate a user interface that facilitates a user's selection of various programs and services" (Gagnon, col. 1, lines 10-15). The data stream is used to construct an electronic program guide having features that can include a "tuning" bar for showing tuning information, a simulated remote control, a "Best-of-Web" broadcast service for caching website data for future access, and archives of broadcast webpages for later viewing (Gagnon, col. 4, line 25 to col. 5, line 53).

Applicants respectfully submit that Gagnon does not show or suggest receiving indications to perform an inter-resource search feature for a first resource and a second resource of different types as recited in applicants' independent claims 1, 18, and 35. In fact, the Examiner admits that Gagnon does not show or suggest receiving an indication to search resources: "the claimed receiving an indication to search resources . . . is not explicitly disclosed by the Gagnon et al reference" (Office Action, p. 11, ¶ 8 (described in connection with claim 17)).

To make up for this deficiency, the Examiner contends that Youman "teaches an electronic television program guide schedule system and method for use with different resources that further teaches the use of a search resources functionality" (Office Action, p. 11, ¶ 8).

Broadly speaking, Youman describes an "electronic program schedule system which includes a

receiver for receiving broadcast, satellite or cablecast television programs for a plurality of television channels and a tuner for tuning a television receiver to a selected one of the plurality of channels" (Youman, abstract). In one embodiment, the electronic program schedule system can allow a user to enter a search mode. In the search mode, a user may input characters of a program title. In response to the inputted characters, the system searches the program listings for those closest to the inputted characters (Youman, col. 31, line 23-col. 32, line 15).

Although applicants' invention may generally implicate the subject matter of Youman, applicants' claimed invention patentably improves upon Youman by providing a system and method for receiving indications to perform an inter-resource search feature for a first resource and a second resource of different types as recited in applicants' independent claims 1, 18, and 35.

Gagnon and Youman, whether taken alone or in combination, do not show all the features of applicants' independent claims 1, 18, and 35.

Moreover, applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner has failed to point to any suggestion or motivation to combine Gagnon with Youman to show all the features of applicants' claimed invention. In particular, the Examiner merely states:

it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

invention to have combined the method of provi[di]ng inter-resource features in an interactive television program guide as disclosed in the Gagnon et al reference with the additional teachings of a search feature as taught by the Youman et al reference for the advantage of providing a user with the option of searching according to user specified criteria and providing the user with the results of the search. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been led to make such a modification since receiving user search criteria is well known in the art of interactive video distribution systems, and more specifically interactive television program guide technology, in order to provide users with the additional benefits of using their own search criteria to find specific resources

(Office Action, p. 12, ¶8).

Applicants respectfully submit that contrary to the Examiner's contentions, the advantage of applicants' claimed invention is to provide an inter-resource search feature to search resources of different types. Accordingly, there is no suggestion or motivation in Gagnon to provide an inter-resource search feature to search resources of different types, nor could one of ordinary skill in the art reasonably be expected to do so.

Therefore, because Gagnon and Youman, whether taken alone or in combination, do not show all the features of applicants' independent claims 1, 18 and 35, and because there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Gagnon with Youman to show all the features of applicants' independent claims 1, 18

and 35, applicants' independent claims 1, 18 and 35 are in condition for allowance. Claims 2, 4-17, 19, 21-34, 36 and 38-51, which depend from one or independent claims 1, 18 and 35, are therefore also in condition for allowance.

New Claims 52-54

Applicants have added new dependent claims 52-54 to more particularly define the claimed invention. Claims 52, 53 and 54, which depend from respective independent claims 1, 18 and 35, are also in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, prompt consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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ANNOTATED SHEET

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400

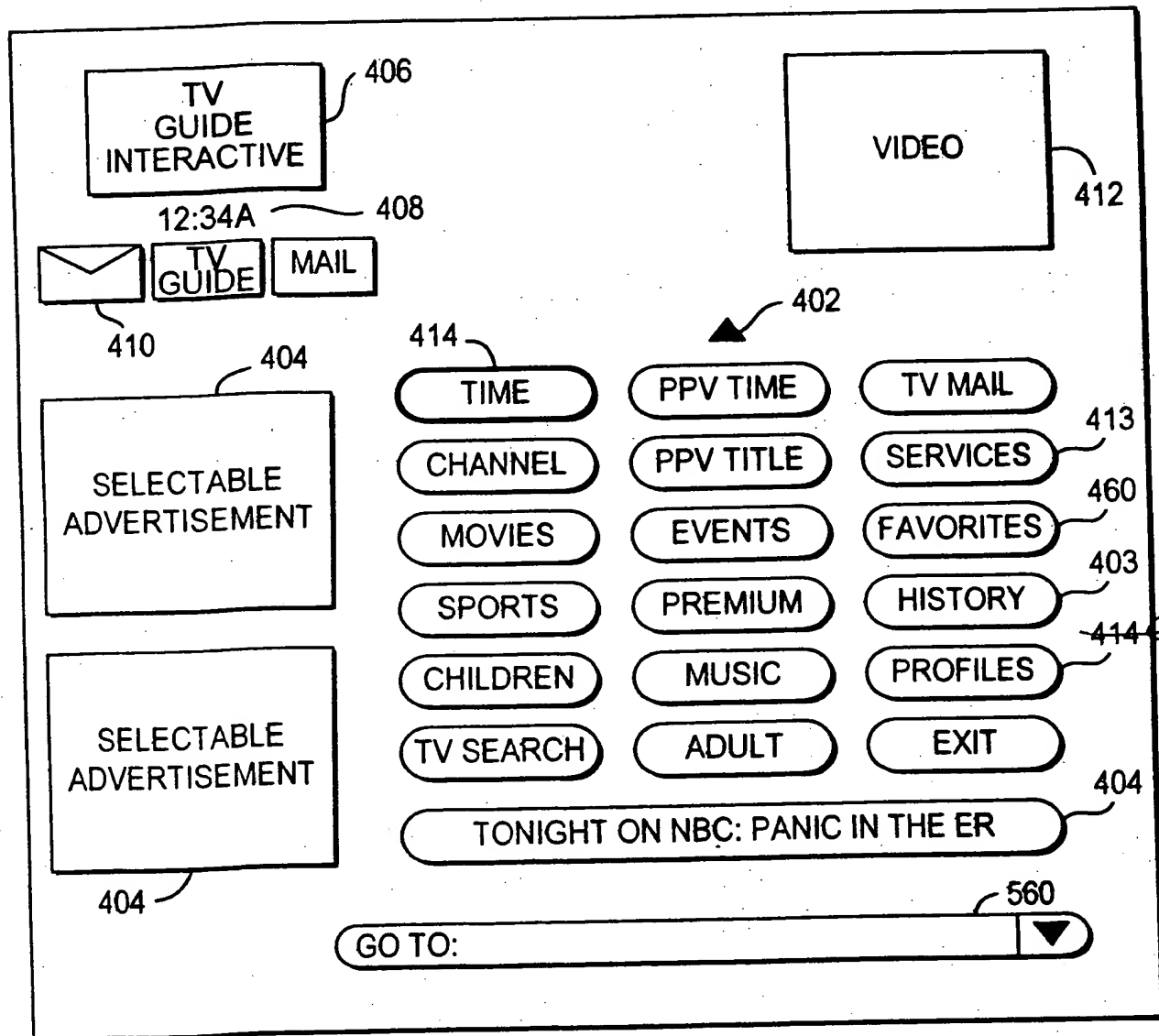


FIG. 7

ANNOTATED SHEET

9/43

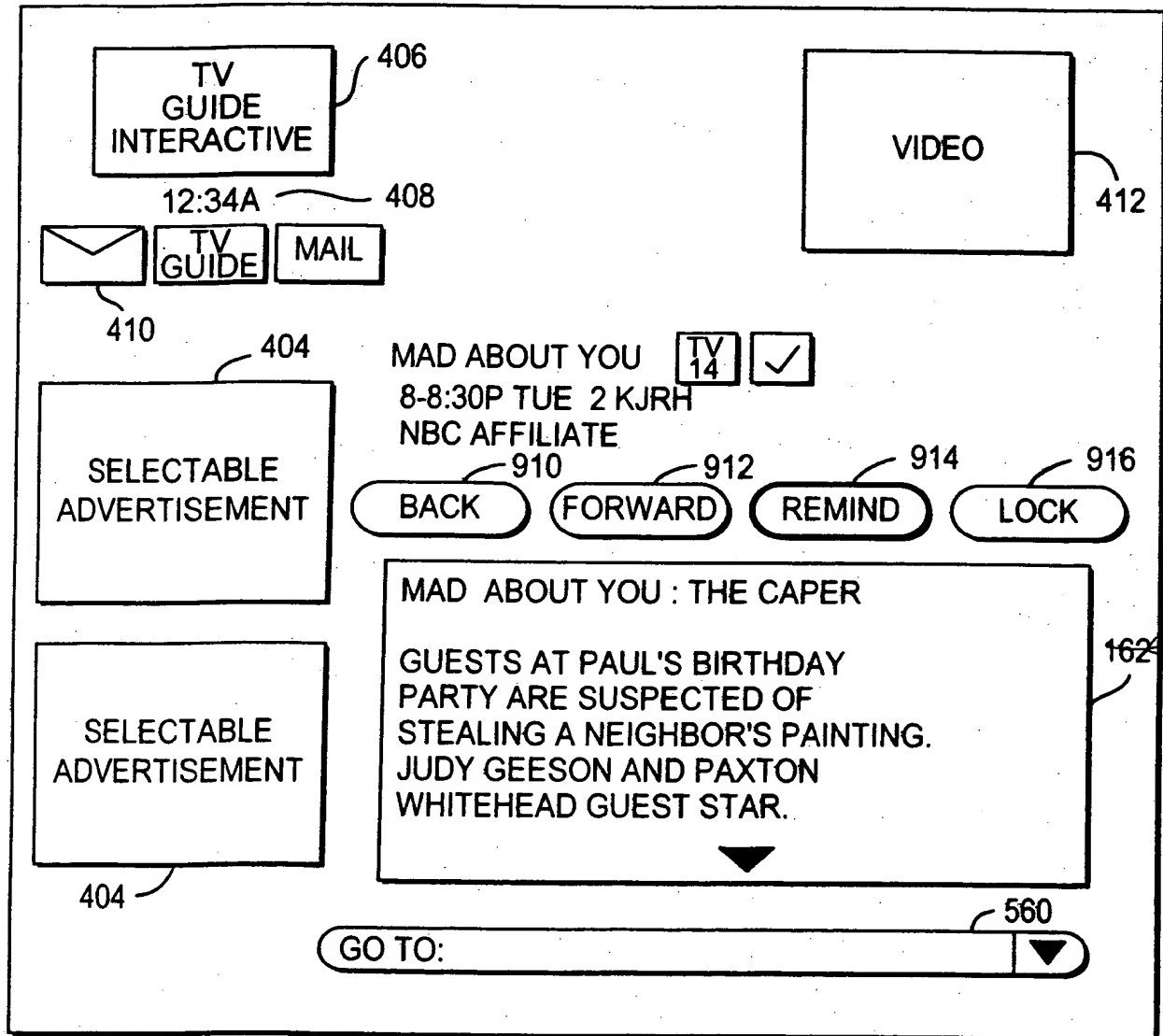
900

FIG. 9

ANNOTATED SHEET

15/43

1400

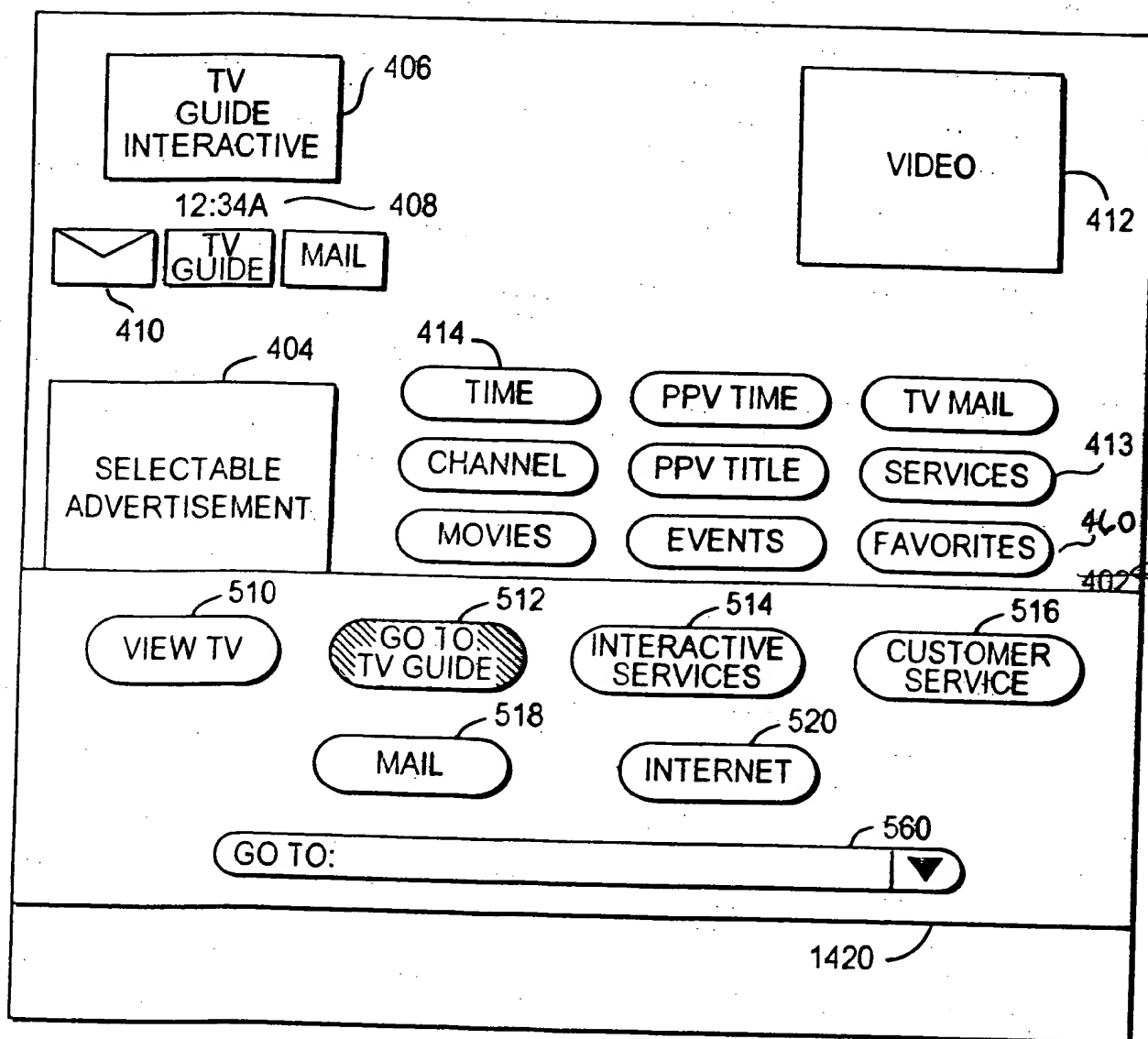


FIG. 15

ANNOTATED SHEET

21/43

~~2000~~

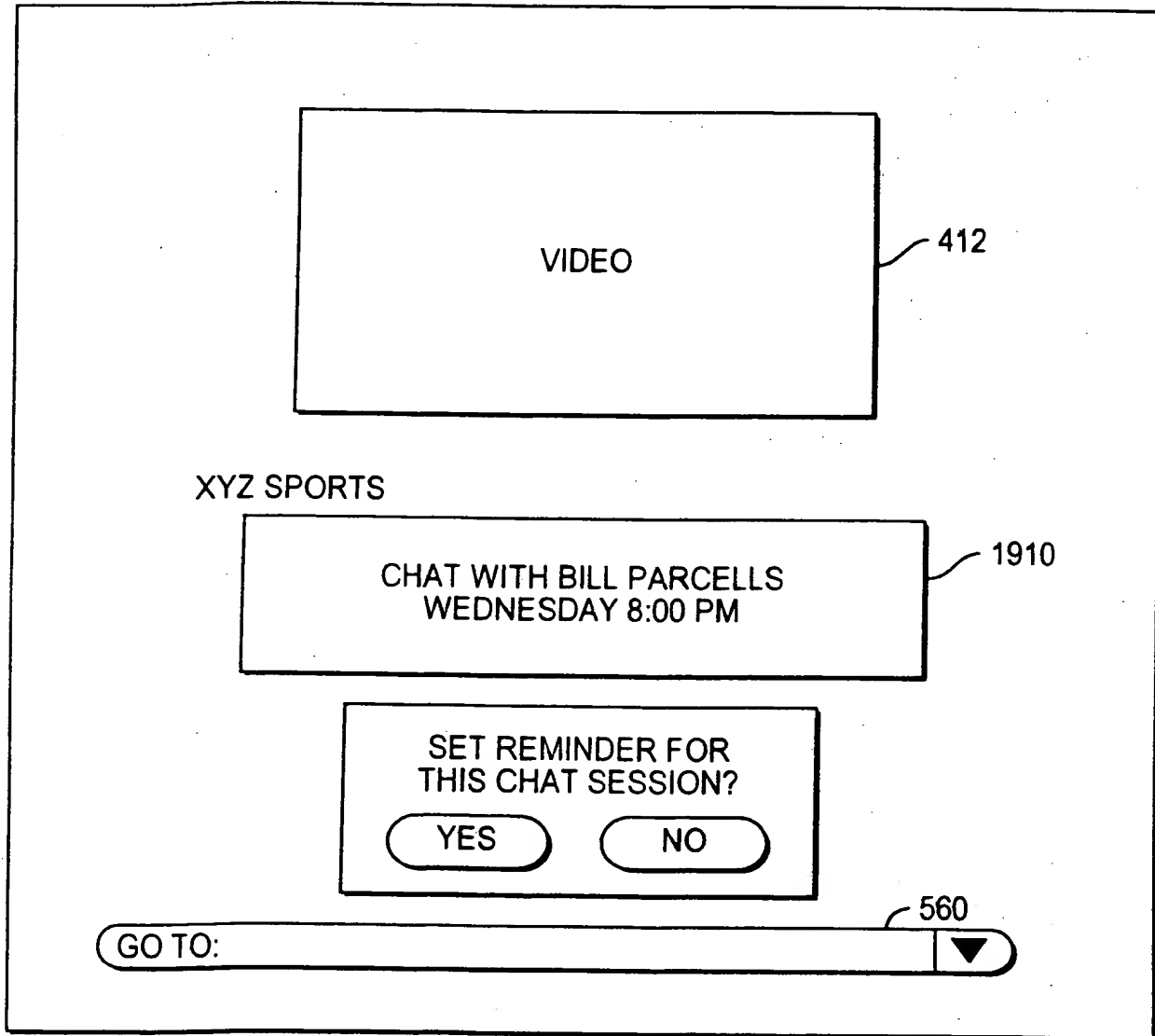


FIG. 21

ANNOTATED SHEET

25/43

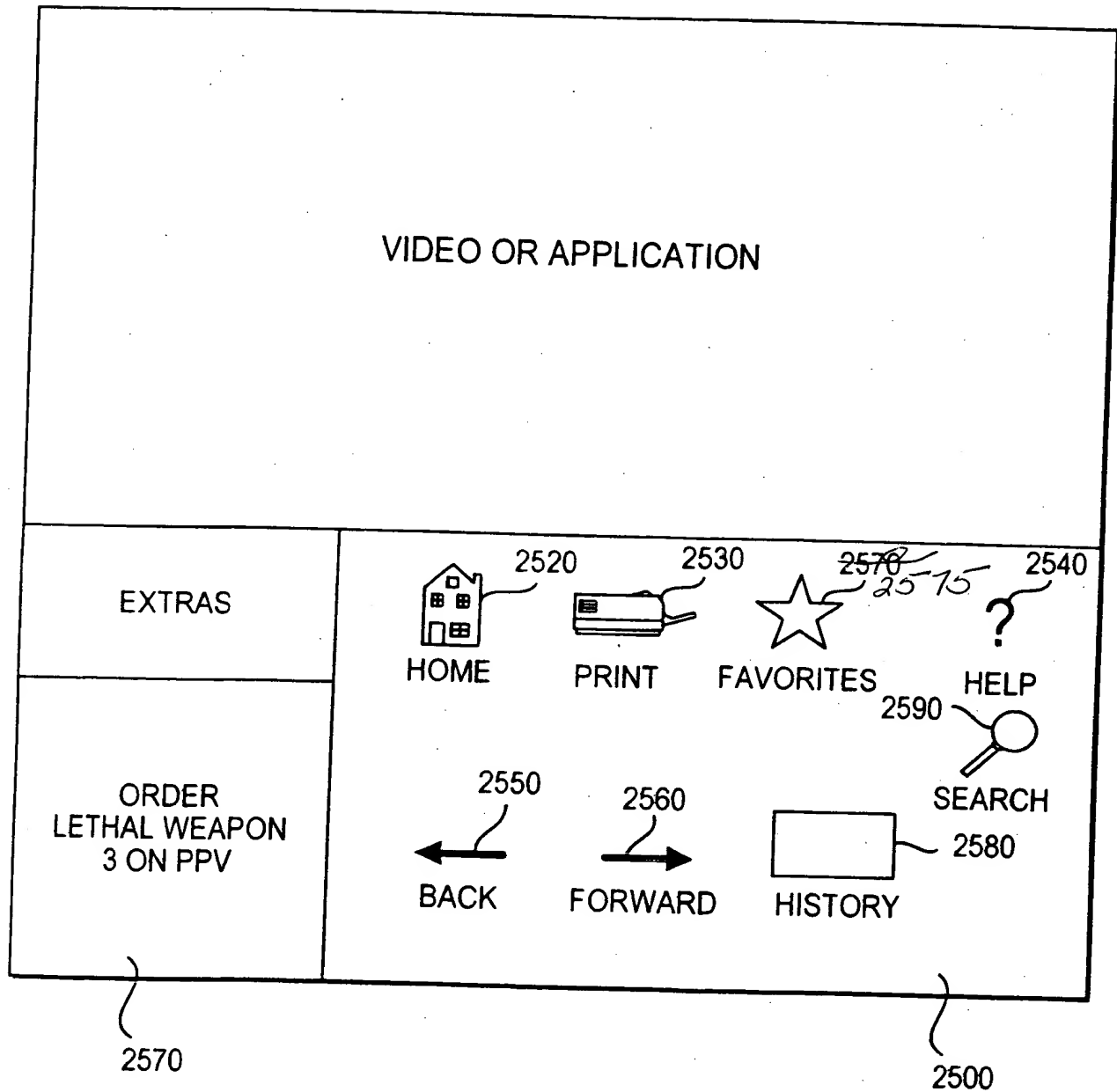


FIG. 25

ANNOTATED SHEET

27/43

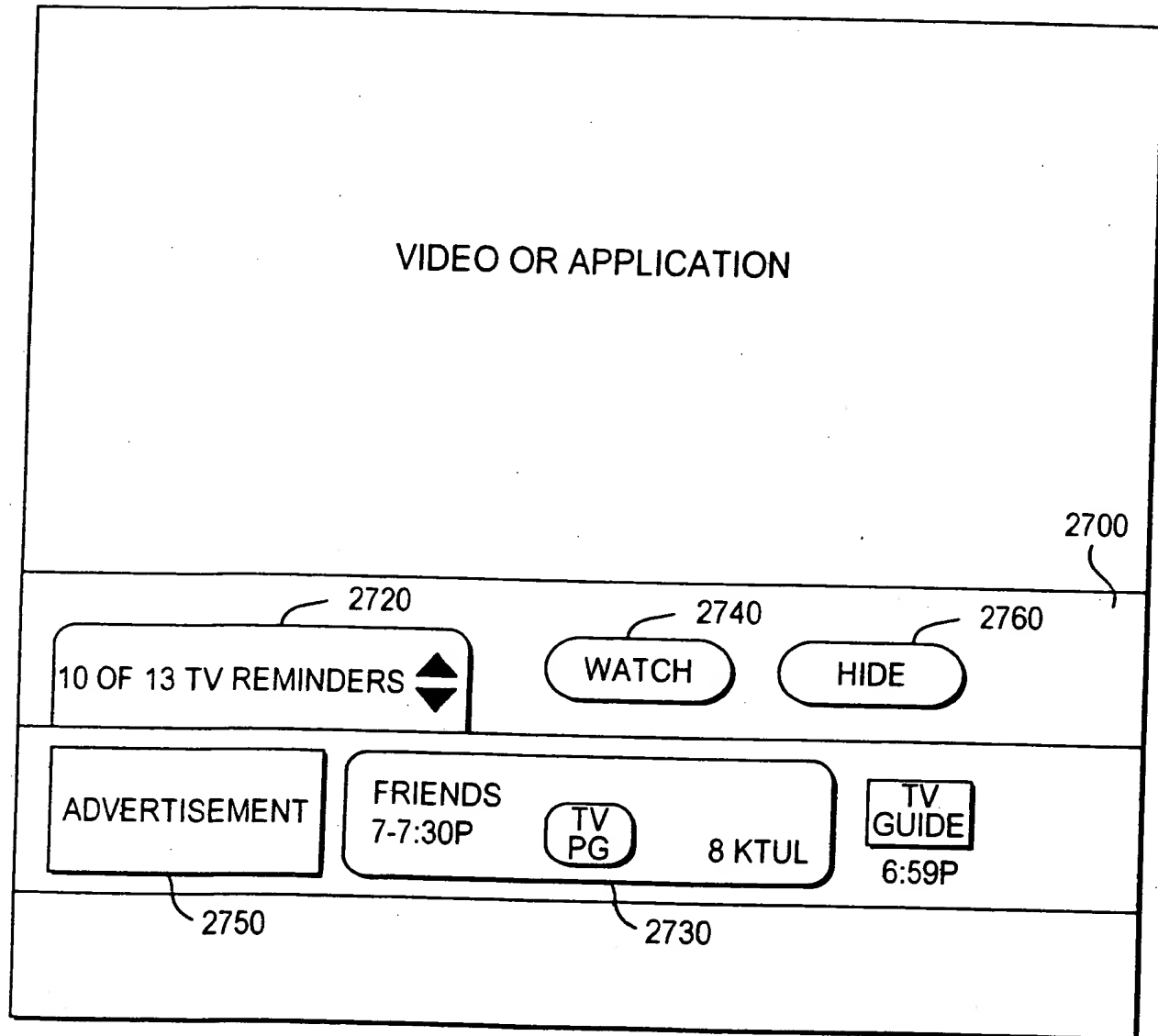
2700

FIG. 27

ANNOTATED SHEET

28/43

2800

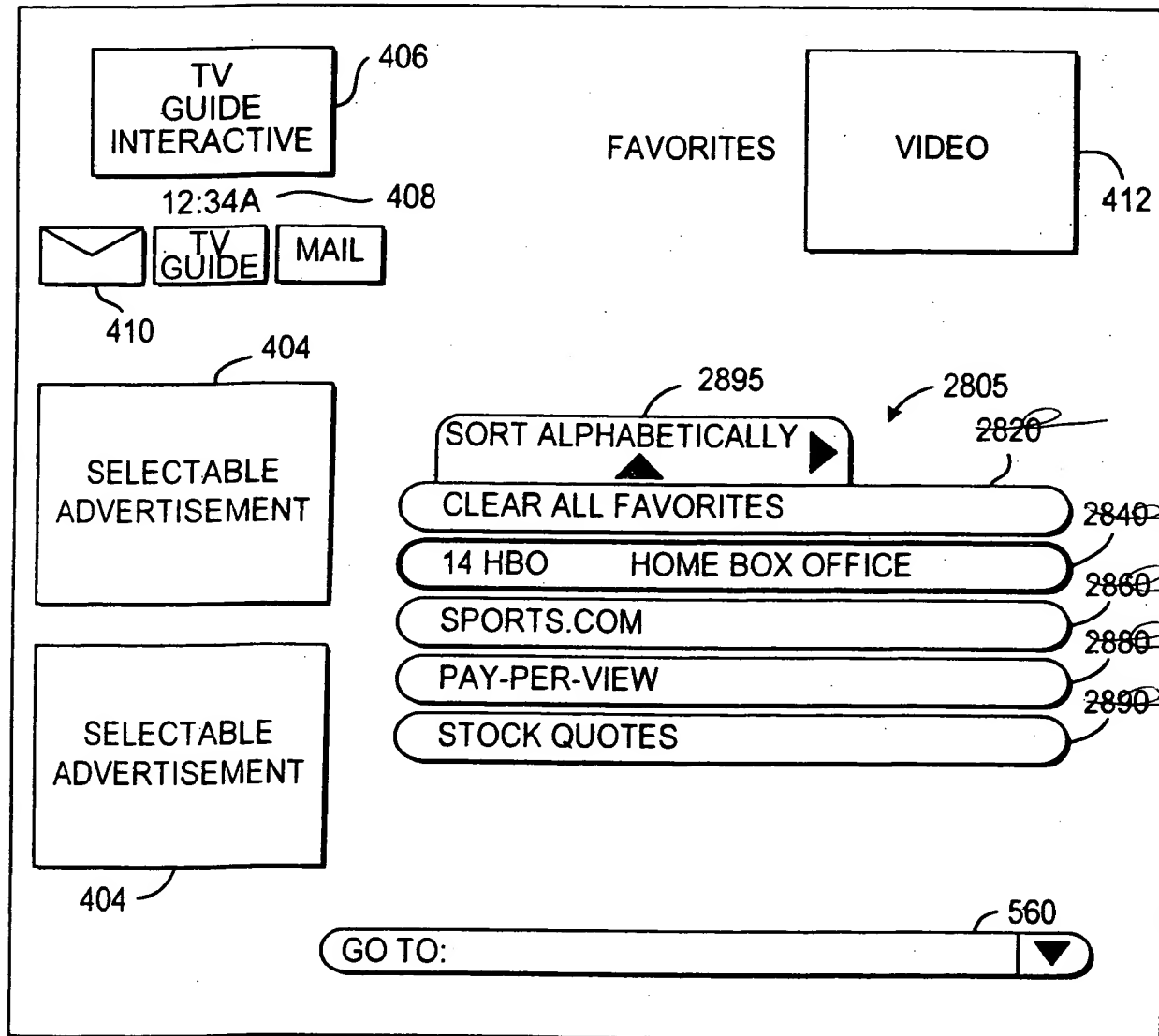


FIG. 28

ANNOTATED SHEET

33/43

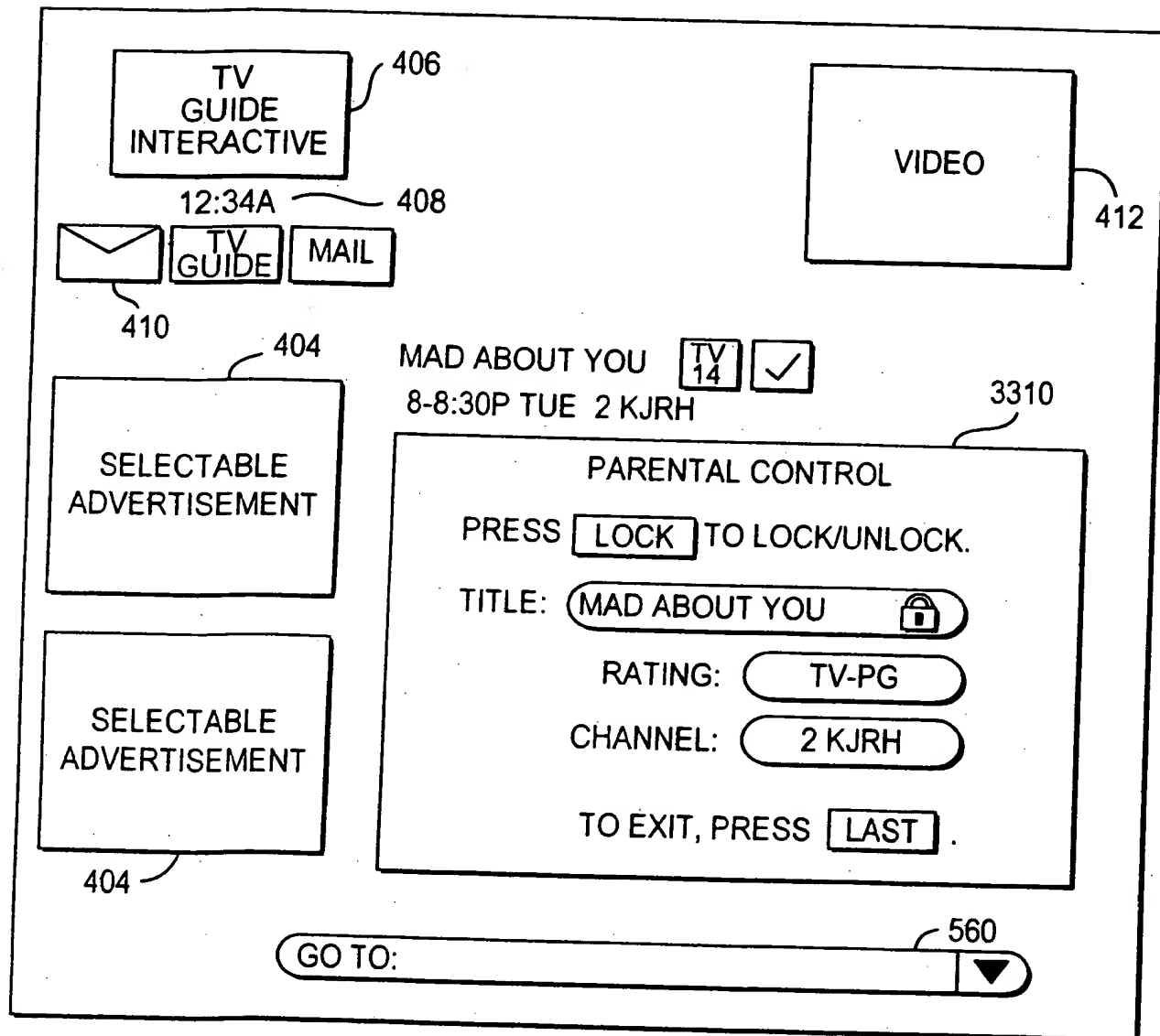
~~3300~~

FIG. 33